Application No.: 10/050,539 Docket No.: I0270.0002/P002

## **REMARKS**

Claim 6 has been cancelled without prejudice to place this case in better condition for appeal.

Applicant has previously responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action dated December 16, 2002. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Dated: October 22, 2003

Respectfully submitted

Jap R. Blum

Registration No.: 42,336

DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN &

OSHINSKY LLP

1177 Avenue of the Americas

41st Floor

New York, New York 10036-2714

(212) 835-1400

Attorney for Applicant

IRB/mgs